



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/601,969	06/23/2003	N. Douglas Owens	MOD-065-01	8819
27268	7590	01/26/2006		
BAKER & DANIELS LLP 300 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET SUITE 2700 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204			EXAMINER JACKSON, ANDRE L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3677	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 and 21-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art figures 1-4 and in view of USPN 2,027,684 to Fageol.

Applicant's admitted prior art disclose a trolley (100) for use in a movable wall panel system (4) having multiple wall panels (2) supported by and movable along an overhead track (5) having X-intersections (7) and defining a bottom wall, the trolley comprising:

a trolley body; a hanging device (63) attached to the trolley body engageable to the movable wall panel; four trolley wheel assemblies (102) rotatably supported by the trolley body and engageable and movable within the overhead track on a plane coincident with the bottom wall of the track such that the four trolley wheels are adapted to travel atop the bottom wall of the track; two of the four trolley wheel assemblies being constructed to a first side of the trolley body, the other two of the trolley wheel assemblies being constructed to a second side of the trolley body; and two auxiliary wheels (101) rotatably supported on the trolley body such that the two auxiliary wheels are engageable and moveable within the overhead track, the two auxiliary wheels being constructed to the trolley body and positioned on opposite sides and opposite ends (non-collinear) of the trolley body relative to one another, such that the two auxiliary wheels are adapted to travel above the bottom wall of the track.

Art Unit: 3677

However, applicant's prior art does not specifically disclose at least one of the auxiliary wheels being dimensioned smaller than any of the four trolley wheels as claimed. Fageol teaches a rail-road vehicle for use with an overhead conductor system having multiple conductor lines supported by and movable along a track or rail (28); a hanging device (33) is attached to the rail-road vehicle body engageable to the overhead conductor system; a four wheel assembly (5) rotatably supported by the rail-road vehicle body and engageable and movable within the track or rail; and multiple auxiliary wheels (27) rotatably supported on the rail-road vehicle body such that the auxiliary wheels are engageable and moveable within the track or rail, the auxiliary wheels being dimensioned smaller than any of the four wheel assembly and positioned on opposite sides and opposite ends of the rail-road vehicle body where radiuses of the track or rail and irregularities along the track or rail are navigated at high speeds with safety and without lean or unstableness. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the prior art trolley assembly to incorporate a change in dimension of at least one auxiliary wheel as taught by Fageol to provide an improved trolley assembly providing an increase in maneuverability and stability, where smaller auxiliary wheels affords a uniform load distribution, thus an overall smoother and safe trolley assembly.

As to claims 4, 5, 9, 10 and 24, the prior art figures illustrate wedged-shaped spacer plates (Fig. 1B) attach the auxiliary wheels to the trolley body.

Response to Applicant's Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed in the Amendment of November 3, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to applicant's arguments presented on pages 2-4, the prior art figures 1-4 in combination with previously cited prior art reference # 20027,684 to Fageol has been applied in combination with applicant's admitted prior art. While the previous Action cited the combination of applicant's admitted prior art in combination with Monne to reject applicant's claims, the Examiner elects to withdraw this rejection to provide an improved obvious-type rejection for the purposes of appeal set for in this Action. Thus, a new ground of rejection has been established in view of applicant's admitted prior art and Fageol as an obvious-type rejection of all claims pending. Accordingly, claims 1-12 and 21-24 are found to be unpatentable over the prior art made of record.

Art Unit: 3677

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre' L. Jackson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7067. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. (9:30 am - 6 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Judy J. Swann can be reached on (571) 272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

André L. Jackson
Patent Examiner
AU 3677

ALJ


ROBERT J. SANDY
PRIMARY EXAMINER